

# NATIONAL



## OFFICE of INTELLIGENCE and ANALYSIS

### INTELLIGENCE IN BRIEF

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## **(U//FOUO) Fatal Attack on Israeli Embassy Staff in Washington, DC, Highlights Potential for Future Extremist Violence in the Homeland**

**(U//FOUO) The 21 May attack that killed two Israeli embassy staff members at an event in Washington, DC, underscores how the Israel-HAMAS conflict continues to inspire violence and could spur radicalization or mobilization to violence against targets perceived as supporting Israel.** The attacker allegedly detailed his anger at Israel and the United States in a manifesto circulating online and shouted “Free Palestine” when taken into police custody. This is the first fatal violent extremist attack in the Homeland that appears to be motivated by the Israel-HAMAS conflict. This follows eight previous conflict-inspired US attacks or plots, demonstrating the enduring resonance of these grievances.

- **(U//FOUO) Some online users are sharing the alleged attacker’s manifesto, praising the shooter, and generally calling for more violence. If calls for violence continue, particularly if other violent extremists in the Homeland or abroad reference the Capital Jewish Museum shooter, our concern for additional violence in the Homeland would increase.**
- **(U//FOUO) The alleged shooter’s manifesto, dated 20 May, expressed his intent to draw attention to the perceived US support for Israel’s actions in the conflict, labeling them “genocidaires.” The manifesto states that protests and political rhetoric surrounding the conflict had “not amounted to much” and that the February 2024 self-immolation incident by an active-duty member of the US Air Force outside the Israeli Embassy in Washington, DC, “must not be in vain.” The manifesto closed with a call to action for other like-minded Americans who he assesses would find his attack “the only sane thing to do.” Additionally, the alleged shooter’s apparent online accounts reposted content promoting HAMAS and Hizballah and featured imagery from the October 2024 mass shooting in Tel Aviv—claimed by HAMAS’ military wing—according to open-source reporting.**
- **(U//FOUO) Prior attackers and plotters in the Homeland since the onset of the Israel-HAMAS conflict have mostly targeted Jewish or Israeli institutions, persons, or targets perceived as supporting Israel. The alleged perpetrator of the April arson attack on a Jewish governor’s official residence in Pennsylvania referenced his support for the Palestinian people as rationale for the attack. A smaller number of attackers chose targets with no clear tie to the conflict, including the attacker who shot and seriously wounded two children at a Christian elementary school in December 2024, which the shooter described in a note as a “counter-measure” to US involvement in Middle East violence. In these incidents, the attackers selected a broad range of targets and weapon types, including firearms, improvised explosive devices, improvised incendiary devices, and hand tools repurposed into weapons.**



**(U) Figure 1.** An online poster promoting the Jewish Capital Museum shooter and displaying Arabic text that reads “You will not be safe.”